

A. Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-17, drawn to an isolation assembly or a bottom hole assembly, classified in class 166, subclass 191.
- II. Claims 18-25, drawn to a method of fracturing or stimulating a formation, classified in class 166, subclass 308.1.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

- 2. Inventions I and II are related as process and apparatus for its practice. The inventions are distinct if it can be shown that either: (1) the process as claimed can be practiced by another materially different apparatus or by hand, or (2) the apparatus as claimed can be used to practice another and materially different process. (MPEP § 806.05(e)). In this case the apparatus as claimed can be used to practice another and materially different process such as pressure testing, well screen or perforations cleaning, cement squeezing.
- 3. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification and the search required for Group I is not required for Group II, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

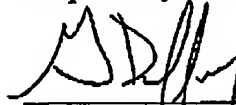
B. Election

In an effort to move this case along, and in response to the restriction requirement which the Examiner imposed, Assignee elects -- without traverse -- to prosecute the claims of 1-17 of Group I.

C. Conclusion

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at 713.787.1478 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



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